<u>In the Title</u>:

Please replace the title as filed with the following title:

--DISK UNIT HAVING MECHANISM FOR LOADING AND UNLOADING

HEAD UNIFORMLY IN CIRCUMFERENTIAL DIRECTION OF A DISK--

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In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The MPU 124 executes a program stored in the ROM 123, and controls the voice coil motor ~~115~~113 via the servo controller 126, so as to carry out a ramp load operation of a ramp unload operation. The ramp load operation loads the head 115 on the disk 111 from the ramp mechanism 116, and the ramp unload operation unloads the head from the disk 111 to the ramp mechanism 116.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 24, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--For this reason, in order to prevent an error caused by ~~a~~ damage to the disk 111 by the head 115 during the ramp load operation and/or the ramp unload operation, a data recording prohibit region Ad is provided on the disk 111 as shown in FIG. 3. FIG. 3 is a diagram for explaining the data recording prohibit region Ad in which the data recording is prohibited. The data recording prohibit region Ad has a ring shape, as indicated by the hatching in FIG. 3. This data recording prohibit region Ad corresponds to the position where the head 115 is loaded by the ramp load operation and the position where the head 115 is unloaded by the ramp unload operation.--

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--However, according to the conventional disk unit 10, an increase of the storage capacity is limited by the data recording prohibit region Ad which is provided on the disk ~~11~~111 to prevent an error from being generated due to the damage to the disk 111 by the head 115 during the ramp load operation and/or the ramp unload operation. Since the data recording prohibit region Ad is provided in the ring shape in the outer peripheral region of the disk 111 and the data recording density is higher in the outer peripheral region of the disk 111, there ~~was~~is a problem in that the increase of the storage capacity is greatly limited by the data recording prohibit region Ad.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 26, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Still another object of the present invention is to provide a disk unit having a function of loading a head on a disk from a holding mechanism during a load operation and unloading the head from the disk during an unload operation, comprising a controller which controls a movement of the head so that the loading operation and the unloading operation are carried out in a specific region on the disk, where the specific region extends ~~for~~through an angular range smaller than 360°. According to the disk unit of the present invention, it is possible to prevent deterioration of a protection layer which is formed on the disk, caused by

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the load and unload operations, in regions other than the specific region, so that the serviceable life of the disk is extended. In addition, it is possible to increase the storage capacity because the data recording only needs to be prohibited within the specific region.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 28, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The head 115 will not be loaded and unloaded in the regions other than the specific region A0 on the disk 111. Hence, the protection layer will not be deteriorated by the loading and unloading of the head 115 in the regions other than the specific region A0 on the disk 111. Hence, even in the region which is in the outer periphery of the disk 111 indicated by the dotted line in FIG. 4 and is other than the specific region A0, it is possible to record and ~~reproduced~~reproduce data ~~similarly~~similar to the other regions on the inner peripheral side from the outer periphery of the disk 111.--